Establishment of gems and jewels park in Rajasthan

1645. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the Diamond Corporation of India propose to establish a gems and jewels park in Rajasthan; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) No, Sir. However, a Public Limited Company known as the Diamond & Gem Development Corporation, recently incorporated under section 25 of the Indian Companies Act proposes to set up a Gemstone Industrial Park in Jaipur. The Park, being financed on self-financing basis by the shareholder units is expected to be constructed in two phases.

Decline in Export of Cashew Kernel

1646. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that there has been a set back in the export of cashew kernel;

(b) if so, what steps are being taken to improve the situation;

(c) what have been the export figures relating to cashew kernel for the last two years; and

(d) what are the projections for the current year?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Exports of cashew kernels during 1987-88 showed a marginal fall as against the record export during 1986-87.

(b) To step up export of cashew, Government has been granting CCS @8 per cent on export of cashewnuts in consumer packs of 1 Kg. or less. Import replenishment @ 10 per cent on exports of cashew kernals is also being granted. Besides this, the Cashew Export Promotion Council, undertakes export promotional measures by way of sending trade delegations and participation in fairs and exhibitions abroad.

(c) Exports of cashew kernals from India in the last two years have been as follows:

Year	Q y. (MTS)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1986-87*	41759	334.10
1987-88*	36937	322.7

*(Provisional)

(d) The international market for cashew has been fluctuating and the prices are yet to stabilise. Since the current price levels are lower than those prevailing during 1987-88, the volume of export will have to be more to maintain the exports earnings during 1988-89.

Import of oil against outstanding amount from Nigeria

1647. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that huge amounts are outstanding against Nigeria towards exports made to that country;

(b) whether import of oil is being considered against these outstandings; and

(c) whether a similar deal has also been entered into with Libya and Iraq?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) Yes, Sir. About Rs 47 crores were outstanding in Nigeria as on 30.11.87.

(b) No, Sir.

(c) Some Indian companies have individually entered into arrangements with Brega National Oil Company of Libya for release of crude oil against pending bills.

A part of crude oil is to be imported from Iraq during 1988-89 is to be adjusted against Indian dues of Indian companies in that country.

Cases filed against farmers in Andhra Pradesh for recovery of loans

1648. SHRI KAMAL MORARKA: Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Public Sector Banks have filed numerous court cases against small and marginal farmers in Andhra Pradesh for recovery of crop loans;

(b) whether it is a also a fact that many farmers have also been arrested and put behind the bars; and

(c) if so, whether it is the Government's policy to take such harsh measures instead of helping the farmers to come out of their problems?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF ECONOMIC AFFAIRS IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI EDUARDO FALEIRO): (a) to (c) Information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House to the extent available.

Crisis in the Cashew Industry

@1649. SHRIMATI RENUKA CHOWDHURY:

SHRI MUKHTIAR SINGH MALIK:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that Cashew Industry in the Southern States of the country have been facing serious crisis;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) whether the Central Government propose to take any steps to save this industry by giving financial help; and

(d) if so, the details thereof?

THE MINISTER OF COMMERCE (SHRI DINESH SINGH): (a) and (b) Difficulties under the Monopoly Procurement Scheme introduced by the Government of Kerala and the consequent reluctance on the part of traders to lift cashewnuts together with lower international prices may have an adverse effect on exports of cashew kernels.

(c) and (d) There is no such proposal under consideration. There is a continuing interaction between the Govt., the Cashew Export Promotion Council and the industry to ensure exports.

Extension of term of Sarkaria Committee

1650. SHRI ALADI ARUNA *alias* V. ARUNACHALAM: Will the Minister of HOME AFFAIRS be pleased to state:

(a) what are the reasons for extending the term of the Sarkaria Committee on reorganisation of Delhi set-up; and

(b) whether the Home Ministry has fixed any definite time for the submission of final report?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HOME AFFAIRS (SHRI SANTOSH MOHAN DEV): (a) and (b) The Committee have circulated a questionnaire to elicit the opinion of political parties, Government offices/Ministries and important individuals, to enable them to formulate their recommendations. Because of the volume of work involved it has been decided to extend the period for submission of the report by the Committee upto 31st December, 1988.

Setting up of spinning mills in Orissa

1651. SHRI SUBAS MOHANTY Will the Minister of TEXTILES be pleased to state:

(a) whether his Ministry has received any application from private sector to set up spinning mills in Orissa;

@Previously Unstarred Question 1364, transferred from the 5th August, 1988.